

fact there are 267,000 Iraqi security forces, the American people are told repeatedly that they cannot defend Iraq on their own.

Three years later, the only plan the President and the secretary of war can articulate is to "stay indefinitely." Our military generals know full well this so-called plan guarantees more needless U.S. casualties, and Iraqi leaders know it guarantees more sectarian violence.

In the past, I and others have called for the resignation of the Defense Secretary, Mr. Rumsfeld. Today, I offer a better plan. The President should keep his political appointee. In fact, the President should transfer Secretary Rumsfeld to Iraq. He should be stationed there until every last U.S. soldier leaves the Nation we are now occupying.

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The Secretary says he sees progress every time he visits. Imagine what he might see by actually living and working there.

There is no higher priority for the President, the U.S. military and America these days than Iraq. It stands to reason that the President's military appointee should be directly able to report for duty in Baghdad. Rumsfeld could personally work with the leaders of the Iraq government and show them how to implement his plan. By working in Iraq, the Secretary could accept direct responsibility for generating more of what he calls progress every time he visits Iraq. He could show America and the rest of the world the progress that only he and the President pretend to see.

The only true thing we can say about Iraq today is that it is on the brink of dissolving into unspeakable violence.

We cannot pretend our way out of Iraq, and we cannot pretend that the Iraqi people believe that our presence is stabilizing the country.

Iraq needs a plan that does not include the occupation of that country by foreign soldiers, including U.S. soldiers. Until this administration admits that it cannot shoot its way to victory, Iraq will grow more and more violent.

If Defense Secretary Rumsfeld was stationed there, America might finally get an honest assessment of the war and a road map to peace.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. McHENRY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. McHENRY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HONORING "DOC" LONG

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. William Henry "Doc"

Long, a decorated World War II veteran and a successful businessman. He has dedicated his life to serving his country, his community and his family, and that is why I honor him today.

Long before Doc owned many successful family businesses in North Carolina, he served in the highly decorated 79th Infantry Division in the U.S. Army. Every living American directly benefits from the actions of the men of the 79th, and the many military units of the World War II era.

While in France, Doc was wounded when he was hit in the left side of his chest. As he lay in the cold night for 18 hours, he was wounded again. When he was found the next morning and taken to the aid station, his clothes and shoes had been cut off. But his personal belongings, just a wallet and a small pocket New Testament with his name inscribed on the front, were saved.

After a few days, Doc noticed that his Bible, which was given to him by his aunt, had been hit by a piece of shrapnel which went through the entire Bible but caught the outer binding. Doc stated that the Bible, which he kept close to his heart, was a gift of life because it prevented the shrapnel from piercing his heart.

After he was wounded Doc was awarded the Purple Heart with the Oak Leaf Cluster, in addition to numerous other medals, including the Bronze Star, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, Good Conduct Medal, American Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

After the war, Doc started his first trucking and construction business, Long Brothers of Summerfield, with his brother James. In 1952 the brothers started Long's Asphalt Paving of Greensboro. Later Doc and his brother split the companies. Since then, Doc's children have joined their father in his business and, with Doc's help, have owned or started their own businesses.

Doc and his late wife, Doris Westmoreland Long, were married for 44 years. Doris died in 1990, at the age of 66. Together the Longs have three children, Gurney Long, Patty Long-Hill and Charles, who passed away unexpectedly last year. They also have a number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Today, at 82, Doc still loves to participate in the business decisions and operations of his founding companies. In 2003, Doc helped two of his grandchildren start a business, and they proudly adopted his original company name, Long Brothers. This company is now located in Winston-Salem, where they successfully operate 20 trucks and employ 23 full-time employees. These endeavors are commendable because only 3 percent of family-owned businesses ever make it to the third generation.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Doc for his devotion to his family, his perseverance in all his business ventures and his honest and faith-

ful service to his country during World War II. His story should be an inspiration for us all.

CLOSING OF CIA'S BIN LADEN UNIT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, the more President Bush entangles this country of ours in the Iraq occupation, the less committed it seems he is to the real national security threat we face, global terrorism, al Qaeda and Osama bin Laden.

Over the holiday weekend, when few people were paying attention, it was reported that the CIA has closed down "Alec Station," its special unit that was charged specifically with tracking down and capturing Bin Laden.

We've sure come a long way since the immediate aftermath of 9/11, when the President promised to get him, dead or alive. So much for Sheriff Bush. The tabloids are doing a better job of hunting down Tom Cruise's baby than this administration is at finding bin Laden. But this latest decision is of a piece with the Bush approach to bin Laden.

In the fall of 2001, he had bin Laden cornered at Tora Bora, but the President let him get away by relying on local warlords rather than moving American troops in to finish the job.

And a few months later, at a White House press conference, the President's cavalier approach to bin Laden was on full display. "I don't know where he is," the President said. "I just don't spend that much time on him. I truly am not concerned about him."

Well, 300 million other Americans are concerned, and they want to know why we can spend hundreds of billions of dollars to occupy and foment civil war in Iraq, but we can't maintain a single intelligence operation office devoted to apprehending the man responsible for the murder of thousands of Americans. And this from a President who has never missed an opportunity to wave the flag of 9/11, to exploit that tragedy in order to score political points and justify the reckless use of American power in Iraq.

The evidence is clear. This President is not serious about fighting terrorism. If he were, he wouldn't have diverted energy and resources away from the struggle in order to chase this white whale in Iraq.

Saddam Hussein, as we know by now, was not an ally of bin Laden's and was not a threat to U.S. security. But by invading Iraq, President Bush has turned that devastated country into a jihadist breeding ground and made all of us less safe. The Iraq war has created terrorists rather than stopping them.

There is only one answer. It is time to bring the troops home and end the occupation of Iraq. Then we can redirect our resources, military and otherwise, toward finding bin Laden and